

REMARKS

Claims 107, 108, 129, 131-134, and 135-155 are pending. Claims 107, 108, 129, and 131-134 have been amended, claims 1-106, 109-128, and 130 have been canceled, and new claims 135-155 have been added to recite additional features of Applicant's invention.

Reconsideration of the application is requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 107, 108, and 129-134 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for being anticipated by the Norman patent. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 129 recites a processor for automatically setting the wireless communications unit to receive one or more calls from a wireless service provider, the processor "automatically setting the wireless communication unit to receive said calls based on a changeable phone number corresponding to a user's mobile telephone number read by the reader from the removable storage medium." (See, for example, page 7 of Applicant's specification for support.) The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

The Norman patent discloses a cellular telephone having a slot for receiving a memory card 62. The memory card stores a program which asks a user a series of questions on a display. The user enters his name, address, rate plan, custom call features, enhanced service selections, long distance carrier, and credit information in response to the questions.

When all the information is entered, controller 50 calls a customer activation center 23 to authorize use of the phone. (See column 9, line 56 - column 10, line 28, and also column 11, lines 7-21.) The customer activation center assigns and transmits a telephone

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number (MIN) to the phone, and controller 50 programs the phone to receive calls at that number. (See column 11, line 23 - column 12, line 63)(telephone 10 will be given a unique permanent MIN *generated at the customer activation center 23* ... Programming the cellular telephone 10 includes . . . entering the permanent MIN number).

The Norman phone is therefore very different from the hard-wired telephone recited in claim 129. In this claim, the processor automatically sets the wireless communications unit to receive calls “based on a changeable phone number corresponding to a user’s mobile telephone number.” This claim further recites that this number is “read by the reader from the removable storage medium.” In contrast to the invention, the Norman phone is programmed based on a telephone number assigned by and transmitted from customer activation center 23. That number does not correspond to the user’s mobile telephone number and is not stored on memory card 62.

Because the Norman patent does not disclose all the features of claim 129, the Norman patent cannot anticipate this claim. Applicant further submits that these differences are sufficient to render claim 129 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Norman.

For example, because the Norman phone is set to receive calls through a telephone number designated by a customer activation center, and not based on a user’s mobile telephone number stored in a removable memory card, the Norman phone cannot achieve many of the advantages of the claimed invention. In one non-limiting application, a traveler in a hotel room may program a hard-wired telephone corresponding to the invention to

receive calls at his mobile telephone number. In order to do so, the traveler does not need to bring his cell phone with him. He only needs to bring a removable storage medium storing his mobile number. This medium can be extremely small in size (e.g., fit into the user's wallet) and therefore very convenient to carry.

The Norman patent, however, programs its phone to a telephone number designated by a customer activation center. That number does not correspond to the user's mobile number and is not stored on a removable memory card. Accordingly, the user of the Norman phone cannot receive calls through his mobile number on the Norman phone and must also carry his cell phone with him. The claimed invention, therefore, represents a significant improvement in the art.

Claim 131 recites that the reader reads a user identification code from the removable storage medium, and that the processor compares the user identification code to a pre-stored code to authorize receiving calls based on the mobile telephone number of the user. The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

New claims 135-143 have been added to further define the invention of claim 29.

Claim 135 recites that the hard-wired telephone further includes "a communications port to receive telephone calls through a public switched telephone network." The Norman patent does not disclose these features, i.e., Norman only discloses transmitting telephone calls to customer activation center 23 via a PSTN when the user pushes a "send" icon on the cellular phone display. (Column 12, Lines 1-11.) Norman does not disclose receiving

calls from a public switched telephone network either through its RJ-11 jack or through any other PSTN port.

Claim 136 recites that the telephone calls received through the public switched telephone network “bypass the wireless communications unit.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features. As discussed at column 12, lines 1-11, the Norman patent only discloses transmitting phone calls through a public switched telephone network. Norman does not disclose receiving calls through a public switched telephone network by bypassing the wireless communications unit.

Claim 137 recites that the processor “generates a control signal to prevent reception of calls through the public switched telephone network when the wireless communications unit is activated.” (See, for example, pages 35 and 36 of Applicant’s specification for support.) The Norman patent does not disclose these features. The Norman phone only transmits calls through a PSTN. Norman does not disclose receiving any calls through this jack, and therefore its controller 50 does not generate a control signal to prevent reception of calls through a public switched telephone network when its wireless communications unit is activated.

Claim 138 recites that “the wireless communications unit is deactivated to allow calls to be received through the public switched telephone network when no removable storage medium is coupled to the reader.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 139 recites a connector to connect the wireless communication unit to a remotely located antenna. (See, for example, page 36, lines 1-6 in Applicant's specification for support.) The Norman patent does not disclose these features, i.e., Norman discloses an antenna 14 but this antenna is coupled directly to cellular phone 10 as shown in Figure 3.

Claim 140 recites that the hard-wired telephone is located in a hotel room. The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 141 recites a keypad to enter a phone number to be dialed by the user based on the user's mobile telephone number. Claim 140, therefore, defines an invention which allows the user to place telephone calls based on his own mobile telephone number, which mobile number may be detected, for example, by a called party's caller identification unit to identify the caller. The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 142 recites a USB port coupled to the removable storage medium for transferring said information to the reader. (See, for example, page 33, first full paragraph, for support, e.g., memory sticks and MP3 players are commonly known to have USB ports for receiving and transmitting information.) The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 143 recites that the hard-wired telephone is located in a kitchen appliance. (See, for example, Figure 18B for support.) The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 107 recites a hard-wired telephone having a processor which automatically sets a wireless communications unit “to receive said calls based on a changeable phone number corresponding to a user’s mobile telephone number entered through the keypad.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features. The Norman patent discloses setting its phone to a telephone number received from a customer activation center. The Norman patent does not disclose setting its phone to a user’s mobile telephone number entered through a keypad.

Because the Norman patent does not disclose all the features recited in claim 107, it is respectfully submitted that the Norman patent cannot anticipate this claim. Applicant further submits that these differences are sufficient to render claim 107 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Norman.

Claims 144-150 have been added to further define the telephone of claim 107.

Claim 144 recites that “after setting the wireless communications unit, the processor automatically transmits a signal to the wireless service provider to provide notification that the wireless communications unit is available to receive calls based on the user’s mobile telephone number.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 145 recites that the processor “places the wireless communication’s unit in call monitoring mode after receiving a confirmation signal from the wireless service provider, the confirmation signal being transmitted in the response to the notification signal.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 146 recites that the processor “resets the wireless communications unit to receive calls based on a mobile telephone number of a new user, after the removable storage medium is replaced with a removable storage medium containing the new user’s mobile telephone number.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 147 recites that the processor “transmits a message to the wireless service provider to prevent the wireless communications unit from receiving calls from any number different from the new user’s telephone number.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 148 recites that the processor “automatically prevents the wireless communications unit from receiving calls corresponding to the user’s mobile telephone number based on time-of-activation information entered by the user.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 149 recites that the time-of-activation information “indicates a period of time” and that the “processor counts down the period of time while the wireless communication unit is set in a call monitoring mode to receive calls based on the user’s mobile telephone number.” The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 150 recites that the time-of-activation information is set by the user through operation of the keypad. The Norman patent does not disclose these features.

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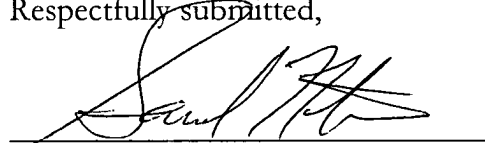
Claim 108 recites features similar to those which patentably distinguish claim 107 from the Norman patent, and further that the wireless communication unit is "remotely located" from the hard-wired telephone. The Norman patent does not disclose these features. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 108 and dependent claims 151-155 are allowable over the Norman patent.

Claim 133 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) for being obvious over a Norman-McDonnell combination. The McDonnell patent was cited for its disclosure of location information. The McDonnell patent does not teach or suggest the features of base claim 129 missing from the Norman patent. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 133 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 129.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR ' 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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